

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06 FEAE-00  
DODE-00 ERDA-05 H-01 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /108 W  
-----081947Z 130085 /43

R 071550Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6013  
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4743

EMO. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR SALT UR US  
SUBJECT: USA INSTITUTE OFFICIAL QUESTIONS NUMERICAL PARITY IN  
SALT

SUMMARY: COMMENT OF INFORMED SOVIET SUGGESTS THAT SOME  
SOVIETS MAY BE THINKING ABOUT SALT PARITY AS LIMITED ONLY  
TO VLADIVOSTOK ACCORDS, AND NOT TO BE EXTENDED TO AGREE-  
MENTS WITH LOWER CEILINGS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF AND FSO SHERROD  
MCCALL (EUR/SOV) APRIL 6, USA INSTITUTE'S GENRIKH  
TROFIMENKO, CHIEF OF FOREIGN POLICY DEPARTMENT, COMMENTED  
ON U.S. SALT PROPOSALS AND AFTERMATH OF SECRETARY'S  
VISIT (SEPTEL). HE ARGUED THAT SOVIETS MADE TWO MAJOR  
CONCESSIONS AT VLADIVOSTOK: AGREEMENT TO NUMERICAL PARITY  
AND AGREEMENT TO SET ASIDE FBS. HE THEN DISCOURSED AT  
LENGTH ON FBS ISSUE ALONG LINE GROMYKO USED IN HIS  
PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. ON QUESTION OF PARITY HE STATED THAT,  
SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SOVIET CONCESSION IN AGREEING  
TO NUMERICAL PARITY AT VLADIVOSTOK SHOULD BE VALID  
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ONLY AS LONG AS VLADIVOSTOK NUMERICAL CEILINGS  
WERE AGREED. LOWERING CEILINGS WOULD CAUSE SOVIET  
MORE STRATEGIC PROBLEMS DUE TO "GEOPOLITICAL DIS-  
ADVANTAGE" OF SOVIET UNION LOCATED AS IT IS BETWEEN  
WEST AND CHINA. SOVIETS COULD ACCEPT PARITY AT  
2400/1320 CEILINGS ONLY BECAUSE THESE LEVELS ARE  
HIGH ENOUGH TO ASSURE THEIR SECURITY AGAINST BOTH

POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES. IF CEILINGS ARE LOWERED, TROFIMENKO THOUGHT SOVIETS WOULD HAVE TO DEMAND NUMERICAL OFFSET FOR THEIR DISADVANTAGE. COUNTER-ARGUMENTS DID NOT DISSUADE HIM FROM THIS LINE AND HE REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT FURTHER.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SOVIETS HAVE ALWAYS MADE CLEAR THAT FBS WAS ONLY TEMPORARY SET ASIDE AT VLADIVOSTOK, THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT WE HAVE HEARD ARGUMENT THAT PARITY WAS ALSO ONLY A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT AND THAT SOVIETS MIGHT AGAIN INSIST ON NUMERICAL ADVANTAGE TO OFFSET "GEOG POLITICAL DISADVANTAGE." TROFIMENKO, IT SHOULD BE NOTED, IS DEVOTEE OF GEOPOLITICAL SCHOOL AND THUS WAS PROBABLY REFLECTING HIS PERSONAL OPINION AS HE CLAIMED. HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT QUALIFY AS AN AUTHORITATIVE SPEAKER ON SALT, HE IS WELL ENOUGH INFORMED ON SALT CONCEPTS TO BE FULLY AWARE OF THE IMPORT OF HIS REMARKS.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2868900  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USA INSTITUTE OFFICIAL QUESTIONS NUMERICAL PARITY IN SALT SUMMARY: COMMENT OF INFORMED SOVIET SUGGESTS THAT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PARM, UR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009